

Validation of a syndromic surveillance system using a general practitioner house calls network, Bordeaux, France

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Abstract:

A new syndromic surveillance system has been developed in Bordeaux City, South West France, using a general practitioners' house calls network. Routinely collected, sociodemographic data, patients' complaints and medical diagnoses made at the end of the visit were monitored using syndrome groups such as influenza syndromes, bronchiolitis, gastrointestinal, respiratory syndromes and others, based on International Classification of Primary Care (ICPC)-2 codes. A process control chart was implemented in order to distinguish signals of interest from "background noise". In 2005 and 2006, a total of 303,936 visits were recorded. Seasonal epidemics of influenza-like illness, bronchiolitis or gastrointestinal were identified. The automated and real time nature of the system also allowed the early detection of unusual events such as an acute increase in the number of heat syndromes during the heat-wave that occurred in France in July 2006. This new system complements existing surveillance programs by assessing a large part of episodes of illness that do not require hospital admissions or the identification of an etiologic agent. Attributes and advantages of the system, such as timeliness and diagnostic specificity, demonstrated its utility and validity in term of syndromic surveillance purposes, and its extension at the national level is in process.

Source: http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=18905

Resource Description

Communication: M

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: **№**

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional

Early Warning System: M

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

A focus of content

Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Temperature

Temperature: Extreme Heat

Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

Geographic Location: M

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Europe

European Region/Country: European Country

Other European Country: France

Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Injury

Infectious Disease: Airborne Disease

Airborne Disease: Influenza

Intervention: M

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Model/Methodology: ™

type of model used or methodology development is a focus of resource

Outcome Change Prediction

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: M

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly

Resource Type: **☑**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale: **™**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment: **№**

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content